Gase 10-04058 Doc 1 Filed 04/26/10	Entered 94/26/19 16/23/19 CEPENGMAINMRER	
ADVERSARY PROCEEDING COVERSH	EPage 1 of 12 LISANT INCOMEDING NOMBER	
PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANTS	
JoJo's 10 Restaurant, LLC	Lisa M. Barnes and Charles Christopher Barnes	
	•	
ATTORNEY (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone No.)	ATTORNEY (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone No.)	
James L. O'Connor, Jr., Esq., Nickless, Phillips and		
O'Connor, P.C.		
625 Main Street, Fitchburg, MA 01420		
(978) 342-4590		
PARTY (Check One Box Only)	PARTY (Check One Box Only)	
11. 200.01	☐ Debtor ☐ U.S. Trustee/Bankruptcy Admin	
☐ Creditor ☐ Other	☐ Creditor X Other	
☐ Trustee	☐ Trustee	
CAUSE OF ACTION: (WRITE A BRIEF STATEMENT OF CAUSE	E OF ACTION, INCLUDING ALL U.S. STATUTES INVOLVED)	
Automatic Stay Violation; Injunctive Relief		
	E OF SUIT as 1, first alternative cause as 2, second alternative cause as 3, etc.)	
(Number of up to five (5) boxes starting with lead cause of action	as 1, first anemative cause as 2, second anemative cause as 3, etc.)	
FRBP 7001(1) - Recovery of Money/Property	FRBP 7001(6) - Dischargeability (continued)	
X 11- Recovery of money/property - § 542 turnover of property	61 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(5), domestic support	
12- Recovery of money/property - § 547 preference	68 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(6), willful and malicious injury	
13- Recovery of money/property - § 548 fraudulent transfer 14- Recovery of money/property - other	63- Dischargeability - § 523(a)(8), student loan 64 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(15), divorce of separation obligation	
14- Recovery of money/property – office	(other than domestic support)	
FRBP 7001(2) – Validity, Priority or Extent of Lien	65 – Dischargeability - other	
21 - Validity, priority or extent of lien or other interest in property	FRBP 7001 (7) – Injunctive Relief	
FRBP 7001(3) – Approval of Sale Property	X 71 – Injunctive relief – imposition of stay	
31 – Approval of sale of property of estate and of a co-owner - § 363(h)	X 72 – Injunctive relief – other	
DDDD 5004(4) OLL of (D	EDDD 7001/9) Subandination of Claim on Interest	
FRBP 7001(4) – Objection/Revocation of Discharge 41 – Objection/ revocation of discharge § 727 (c).(d).(e)	FRBP 7001(8) Subordination of Claim or Interest 81 – Subordination of claim or interest	
41 - Objection tevocation of discharge § 727 (e),(d),(e)		
FRBP 7001 (5) Revocation of Confirmation	FRBP 7001 (9) Declaratory Judgment	
☐ 51 – Revocation of Confirmation	☐ 91 – Declaratory Judgment	
RFBP 7001(6) – Dischargeability	FRBP 7001(10) Determination of Removed Action	
66 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(1), (14), (14a) priority tax claims	01 - Determination of removed claim or cause	
62 – Dischargeability - § 523(a)(2), false pretenses, false representation,	Other	
actual fraud 67 - Dischargeability - § 523(a)(4), fraud as fiduciary, embezzlement, la		
(continued next column)	•	
	 02 - Other (e.g. other actions that would have been brought in state court if unrelated to bankruptcy case) 	
	state court is universite to banks upicy tase;	
☐ Check if this case involves a substantive issue of state law	Check if this is asserted to be a class action under FRCP 23	
☐ Check if a jury trial is demanded in complaint	Demand \$	
Other Relief Sought		
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Docume	nt Page 2 of 12		
BANKRUPTCY CASE IN WHICH	ÍHIS ADVERSÄRÝ PROCI	EEDING ARISES	
NAME OF DEBTOR	BANKRUPTCY CASE NUMBER		
JoJo's 10 Restaurant, LLC	10-41983-MSH		
DISTRICT IN WHICH CASE IS PENDING	DIVISIONAL OFFICE	NAME OF JUDGE	
Massachusetts	Central	Melvin S. Hofman	
RELATED ADVERSARY PROCEEDING (IF ANY)			
PLAINTIFF	DEFENDANT	ADVERSARY	
		PROCEEDING NO.	
DISTRICT IN WHICH ADVERSARY IS PENDING	DIVISIONAL OFFICE	NAME OF JUDGE	
SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY (OR PLAINTIFF)			
/S/ James L. O'Connor, Jr.			
DATE:	PRINT NAME OF ATTORNEY (OR PLAINTIFF)		
April 26, 2010	James L. O'Connor, Jr., Esq.		
•			

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS CENTRAL DIVISION

In re

JoJo's 10 Restaurant, LLC

Debtor(s)

JoJo's 10 Restaurant, LLC Plaintiff

v.

Lisa M. Barnes and Charles Christopher Barnes

Defendants

Chapter 11 No. 10-41983-MSH

Adv. Pro. No. 10-

COMPLAINT

- 1. This matter is a core proceeding and this Court has jurisdiction pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b) (1) and (2) and § 1334. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C § 1409(a).
- 2. Jo Jo's 10 Restaurant, LLC (hereinafter JoJo's or, the Debtor) is a Debtor and Debtor-in-Possession before this court, having filed a petition for relief under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code on April 22, 2010 (hereinafter the Petition Date).
- 3. Lisa M. Barnes a/k/a Lisa M. Murphy (hereinafter Mrs. Barnes) is an attorney with a license to practice in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and is believed to have a last and usual residential address of 75 Powder Mill Road, Maynard, Massachusetts 01754 and a usual place of business at 316 Central Street, Saugus, Massachusetts.

- 4. Charles Christopher Barnes a/k/a "Chris Barnes" (hereinafter Mr. Barnes) is an individual and is believed to have a residential address at 75 Powder Mill Road, Maynard, Massachusetts. Mr. Barnes and Mrs. Barnes are husband and wife. (Mr. and Mrs. Barnes are hereinafter jointly referred to as the Barnes or the Defendants)
- 5. The Debtor operates a restaurant in Maynard, Massachusetts operating under the name Jo Jo's West.
- 6. Mrs. Barnes is the holder of a 50% membership interest in the Debtor. The remaining 50% membership interest is held by Joseph White and Deborah White (hereinafter the Whites). The controlling vote, in the event of an impasse in the conduct of the business is vested in Joseph White
- 7. Prior to opening the restaurant the Debtor paid for the establishment of the Website http://jojoswest.com/default.aspx. (hereinafter the Website)
- 8. The Website was established to provide customers and prospective customers the ability to view events taking place at the Debtor's place of business and to enable customers to electronically reserve seatings and functions at the restaurant.
- 9. Mr. Barnes is the administrator and technical support representative of the Website, and as such has the ability to control the information posted on the Website.
- 10. Both before and after the Petition Date the Barnes have engaged in a pattern of harassment of the Debtor and its agents and employees and interference with its relationships both with customers and vendors including without limitation:
 - A. On March 17, 2010 Mr. Barnes posted on the Debtor's Website statements intended to disparage Joseph White.

- B. Upon information and belief at various times from and since February 4, 2010 Mr.
 Barnes has encouraged creditors to file suit against the Debtor and others.
- C. On April 22, 2010 Mr. Barnes sent notice to a number of the Debtor's vendors stating that the Debtor had filed Chapter 11 to avoid paying the landlord, inviting creditors to contact "us", and stating that "we were working on a plan to get it out and get you your money".
- D. On April 22, 2010 Mrs. Barnes stated in writing to Deborah White that she would be "coming to the restaurant all of the time".
- E. Upon information and belief on April 22, 2010 Mr. Barnes visited several local restaurants notifying them that the Debtor had filed a bankruptcy and was out of business.
- F. On April 22 or April 23, 2010 Mr. Barnes posted notice on the Debtor's Website stating that "JoJo's West had filed bankruptcy..." that the site had been terminated at the request of the Whites, and that no further information was available. The message has since been updated by Mr. Barnes to delete the reference to a bankruptcy and to state that the site had been terminated at the request of the Debtor.
- G. On April 25, 2010 Mrs. Barnes entered onto the Debtor's premises, disrupted a meeting being held with employees, refused to leave, and insisted on walking throughout the restaurant causing disruptions in the employees' preparations for the day's business.
- 11. The Debtor is aware of no publication by any media outlet informing the general public that the Debtor had filed a petition for reorganization before his court.

12. Despite the lack of any publicity by any media outlet, the volume of business at the Debtor's place of business was significantly lower over the weekend from April 23, 2010 through April 25, 2010 than would ordinarily be expected.

COUNT I TURNOVER OF PROPERTY OF THE ESTATE

- 13. The Debtor repeats each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1-12.
- 14. The Debtor's Website is property of the bankruptcy estate and the Debtor is entitled to full possession and control, free of interference from Mr. Barnes.
- 15. Mr. Barnes continues to exercise possession and control over the Debtor's Website and has failed or refused to surrender and deliver to the Debtor possession and control of the Website.
- 16. The termination of the Website by Mr. Barnes and the positing of inaccurate and/or misleading information is causing damage to the Debtor.

WHEREFORE Jo Jo's 10 Restaurant, LLC prays that:

- This Court enter an order directing Chris Barnes, and all those acting in concert with him, including but not limited to his agents and employees, to deliver and/or surrender to the Debtor all control and possession of the Website;
- This Court enter an order directing Chris Barnes, and all those acting in concert with him, including but not limited to his agents and employees, to transfer the domain name to Jo Jo's 10 Restaurant, LLC;
- 3. This Court enter an order directing Chris Barnes, and all those acting in concert with him, including but not limited to his agent and employees, to notify the web host that he is no longer authorized to act on behalf of the Debtor.

- 4. This court enter an order removing Chris Barnes as administrator and technical representative of the Website and grant such other relief as is just
- 5. It be granted such damages as this court deems appropriate together with interest and its costs.

COUNT II RESULTING TRUST

- 17. The Debtor repeats each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1-16.
- 18. Establishment of JoJo's Website was accomplished with the Debtor's funds.
- 19. Upon information and belief Mr. Barnes may now assert that he is the owner of the Debtor's Website.
- 20. Mr. Barnes' present active control over the Website is designed to enable him to destroy the Debtor's business and ultimately obtain possession and control over the Debtor's business to the detriment of the Debtor and its creditors.
- 21. Attempts by Mr. Barnes to assert ownership over the Website will unjustly enrich Mr. Barnes.
- 22. Assertion of ownership and control by Mr. Barnes over the Website is designed to perpetrate a fraud upon the Debtor.

WHEREFORE Jo Jo's 10 Restaurant, LLC prays that:

- This court find that the Website jojoswest.com, if held by Christopher Barnes, is held in a resulting trust for the benefit of the Debtor;
- This Court enter an order directing Chris Barnes, and all those acting in concert with him, including but not limited to his agent and employees, to deliver and/or surrender to the Debtor all control and possession of the Website.

- This Court enter an order directing Chris Barnes, and all those acting in concert with him, including but not limited to his agent and employees, to transfer the domain name to Jo Jo's 10 Restaurant, LLC
- 4. This Court enter an order directing Chris Barnes, and all those acting in concert with him, including but not limited to his agent and employees, to notify the web host that he is no longer authorized to act on behalf of the Debtor.
- 5. This court enter an order removing Chris Barnes as administrator and technical representative of the Website and grant such other relief as is just

COUNT III UNAUTHORIZED POST-PETION TRANSFER

- 23. JoJo's repeats and alleges paragraphs 1-22
- 24. Mr. Barnes has unlawfully and without the Debtor's permission asserted control over the Website.
- 25. The Website constitutes a valuable asset of the Debtor.
- 26. Mr. Barnes' actions constitute an unauthorized transfer of property of the estate after commencement of the case and not authorized under the Bankruptcy Code or by this Court.
- 27. The transfer is avoidable pursuant to sections 544 and 549 of the Bankruptcy Code and therefore the Debtor may recover the property transferred or the value of the transfer from the Defendants.

WHEREFORE Jo Jo's 10 Restaurant, LLC prays that:

- 1. This Court grant judgment for the Debtor in the amount of the value of the Website.
- 2. This court avoid the transfer of the Website to Christopher Barnes.

- 3. This court enter an order that the Website is held in constructive or resulting trust for the benefit of the bankruptcy estate
- 4. It be granted such further and other relief as is just.

COUNT IV WILLFULL VIOLATION OF THE AUTOMATIC STAY

- 28. The Debtor repeats each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1-27.
- 29. Mr. Barnes has wrongfully exercised ownership and control over the Website, which is an asset of the bankruptcy estate.
- 30. At the time that he exercised ownership and control over the Website he knew that the Debtor had filed a petition before this court to reorganize its affairs.
- 31. Mr. Barnes has asserted that he is owed money by and therefore is a creditor of the Debtor.
- 32. The exercise of ownership by Mr. Barnes was conducted with the intent of obtaining control over the assets of the Debtor or otherwise harming the Debtor's ability to reorganize.
- 33. Section 362 of the Bankruptcy Code acts as an automatic stay preventing all individuals from, among other things, exercising control over assets of a debtor or attempting to collect funds it asserts are owed by the debtor.

WHEREFORE Jo Jo's 10 Restaurant, LLC prays that::

- 1. This court enter an order finding the Christopher Barnes has violated the automatic stay.
- 2. This court enter an order that the violation by Christopher Barnes was willful
- 3. It be granted such damages as this court deems just together with interest and its attorney's fees.
- 4. It be granted such further and other relief as is just.

COUNT V INTERFERENCE WITH ADVANTAGEOUS BUSINESS RELATIONS

- 34. The Debtor repeats each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1-33.
- 35. The actions of the Barnes in terminating the Debtor's Website, publishing false information verbally and in writing, communicating with the Debtor's vendors and creditors, and disrupting staff meetings, all interfere with business relationships between the Debtor and its customers, its employees and its vendors.
- 36. As a result of the interference with is business relationships the Debtor has been harmed. WHEREFORE JoJo's 10 Restaurant, LLC prays that it be granted that sum which this court deems just.

COUNT VI BREACH OF FIDUCIARY DUTY

- 37. The Debtor repeats each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1-36.
- 38. The activities of Mrs. Barnes, including specifically the intentional disruption of a staff meeting and threats to enter upon the premises at all times, is a breach of her fiduciary duty as a 50% owner of the Debtor
- 39. As a result of Mrs. Barnes' breach of her fiduciary duty the Debtor has been harmed.

 WHEREFORE JoJo's 10 Restaurant, LLC prays that it be granted that sum which this court deems just.

COUNT VII TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER/PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

- 40. The Debtor repeats each and every allegation set forth in paragraphs 1-39.
- 41. The activities of the Barnes, including those set forth in paragraph 10 of this complaint are causing and will cause, if allowed to continue, irreparable harm to the Debtor.
- 42. There is a substantial likelihood that the Debtor will succeed on the merits of this action.

- 43. The harm, if any, to the Barnes if injunctive relief is granted is outweighed by the harm that will be suffered by the Debtor if injunctive relief is not granted.
- 44. Granting the Debtor a preliminary injunction is consistent with the public interest.

WHEREFORE JoJo's 10 Restaurant, LLC prays that:

- 1. This court issue a writ of mandamus ordering Charles Christopher Barnes a/k/a Chris Barnes, Lisa M. Barnes a/k/a Lisa M. Murphy, and each of their agents, employees, officers, and others acting in concert with them to immediately restore the website Jojoswest.com to the condition it was prior to April 22, 2010.
- 2. Charles Christopher Barnes a/k/a Chris Barnes, Lisa M. Barnes a/k/a Lisa M. Murphy and each of their agents, employees, officers, and others acting in concert with them be otherwise be temporarily restrained from exercising any ownership or control over the website Jojoswest.com. or posting any messages on the Website
- 3. Charles Christopher Barnes a/k/a Chris Barnes, Lisa M. Barnes a/k/a Lisa M. Murphy and each of their agents, employees, officers, and others acting in concert with them be temporarily restrained from communicating with any of the Debtor's members, employees, creditors, and customers.
- 4. Charles Christopher Barnes a/k/a Chris Barnes, Lisa M. Barnes a/k/a Lisa M. Murphy and each of their agents, employees, officers, and others acting in concert with them be temporarily restrained from disseminating in any form any false information about the Debtor, its principals to any individuals including but not limited, print, radio, TV, or internet media outlets, and competing businesses.

- 5. Charles Christopher Barnes a/k/a Chris Barnes, Lisa M. Barnes a/k/a Lisa M. Murphy be temporarily restrained from entering onto or within 500 yards of the Debtor's business premises.
- 6. After hearing, this court issue a Preliminary Injunction extending and incorporating the terms of the Temporary Restraining Order.
- 7. It be granted such damages as this court deems just together with its attorney's fees and costs.

Jo Jo's 10 Restaurant LLC By its attorney,

/s/ James L. O'Connor, Jr.
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